

## Coordinating Board for Higher Education Members

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Quentin Wilson  
Commissioner of Higher Education

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Missouri Department of Higher Education

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## Wilson appointed interim commissioner of higher education

**T**he Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education has appointed Quentin Wilson as interim commissioner of Missouri higher education. The appointment took effect Nov. 1.

As commissioner, Wilson leads the Missouri Department of Higher Education in carrying out the Coordinating Board's goals and administrative responsibilities for the state system of higher education.

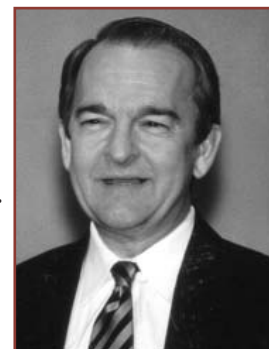
"The board is extremely pleased with the great start Quentin has made in leading the Department of Higher Education as acting commissioner for the last six weeks," said CBHE Chair Sandra Kauffman. "We feel it's important to maintain continuity in leadership as we consider major policy changes and make adjustments in case of additional budget withholdings this year."

"I am very excited about working with this team," said Wilson. "I think we have the right people in place to turn these challenging times into opportunities. I look forward to being an advocate for increased quality and investment in Missouri higher education."

Since joining the DHE, Wilson already has met with college and university presidents around the state and worked with staff in several strategic planning exercises to focus the department's energy and resources in three areas: educational opportunity and achievement, economic growth and quality.

Wilson worked closely with state

department directors to improve performance and interagency policy innovation as Gov. Bob Holden's cabinet director since January 2001.



Prior to joining **Wilson** the governor's staff, Wilson served as director of the Missouri Department of Revenue (1998-2001) and as deputy director of the Missouri Department of Economic Development (1994-98). He has emphasized customer-centered transformation and managing for results throughout his years of public service. He worked to develop and implement the Show Me Results initiative, a statewide performance improvement program that gained Missouri recognition as one of the top states managing for results by *Governing* magazine.

Wilson holds a bachelor's degree in public affairs from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and a master's degree in business administration from Saint Louis University. He completed Harvard University's Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government in 1995.

Wilson replaces Dr. Kala M. Stroup, who resigned the position to assume the presidency of American Humanics in Kansas City. 🍷

# Coordinating Board approves budget request, revisits policies

**T**he Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education approved a higher education budget request of approximately \$1 billion for FY 2004 during its Oct. 10 meeting in Jefferson City.

The FY 2004 budget request, to be presented to the governor and the Missouri General Assembly, includes more than \$42 million in state student financial assistance, over \$729 million for the public four-year institutions' operating budgets, approximately \$137 million for the community colleges and nearly \$4.7 million for Linn State Technical College. The budget request did not include capital improvement funding.

Recognizing the state's current financial challenges, the Coordinating Board accepted the guidance of the state's Office of Budget and Planning to hold the FY 2004 funding request to the FY 2003 appropriations level. After approving the budget request, Coordinating Board members adopted a statement to be shared with Gov. Bob Holden and the Missouri General Assembly. In it, the board states the importance of higher education to the state's economic vitality and that continued higher education funding cuts will severely affect Missouri's well-being and asks the state to place priority emphasis on investing in higher education. In addition, board members



Left to right: Sandra Kauffman, CBHE chair; Quentin Wilson, acting commissioner of Missouri higher education; and Dr. Walter Nolte, president of North Central Missouri College, discuss the proposed collaboration of CBHE members and college and university presidents to craft a common message to the governor and legislature about the importance of investing in higher education after the Oct. 10 CBHE Presidential Advisory Committee meeting.

voted to work with presidents and chancellors of public two-year and four-year institutions to craft a common message to the governor and legislature about the

See **CBHE MEETING**, page 5



## Statement Adopted by the Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education

October 10, 2002

**T**he Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education recognizes our responsibility to submit a budget that acknowledges the state's financial situation and supports the Office of Budget and Planning's request for only a core budget submission for FY 2004.

The CBHE further understands our role to plan and advocate for higher education in Missouri. Last year, in FY 2002, higher education assumed a major portion of the several revenue withholdings and is operating with a core reduction in FY 2003. Since higher education is the economic engine for the state, continued cuts of this magnitude will severely affect Missouri's well-being. If Missouri is to thrive economically; if companies, large and small, are to have a quality workforce in the future;

if individuals and families are going to choose to live in Missouri, then Missouri must invest in a high-quality higher education system.

The CBHE requests that the state place priority emphasis on state investment in higher education and that the state seek ways to commit resources to these institutions in order to have a stronger Missouri.

In addition, in light of the Moody Report, the public institutions of higher learning are prepared to support the executive and legislative branches of government in identifying and addressing the statutory and constitutional issues that are handcuffing the efficient operation of government.

# Missouri continues PreK-16 efforts

**T**he Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education is continuing its work with other PreK-16 education leaders to develop a high-quality, seamless system of education from preschool through college.

The Coordinating Board has teamed with the State Board of Education and the University of Missouri Board of Curators since December 1997, when the three boards agreed to co-sponsor the Missouri K-16 Coalition to promote high standards and smooth transitions for all students.

In the September issue of Ingram's magazine, CBHE Chair Sandra Kauffman describes the work of the Missouri K-16 Coalition, the challenges the coalition has faced and the importance of developing a PreK-16 educational system to improve student success.

The K-16 Coalition's first project resulted in its December 1999 report, *Mathematics in Missouri*. In the report, the coalition identified enhancing teacher quality as one of several important strategies for improving mathematics learning in Missouri schools.

In February 2001, the three sponsoring boards launched a second PreK-16 initiative by appointing the K-16 Task Force on Achievement Gap Elimination. The task force was charged with making recommendations to improve student academic achievement at all levels and identifying performance measures

that could be used to monitor teacher quality, particularly in low-performing schools. The task force released its final report, *Achievement Gap Elimination*, in June.

The task force report stated that improving teacher quality is the most important factor in reducing achievement gaps among Missouri students, and that this can be achieved through a collaborative effort between school districts, colleges and universities that prepare teachers, state education departments and Missouri citizens. In response, education leaders have identified potential follow-up projects to improve teacher quality.

In a joint meeting on Sept. 13, members of the three education boards received an update on current PreK-16 projects, including an upcoming Symposium on K-

16 Mathematics Reform and the Kansas City, Mo., School District-Higher Education Partnership to improve the delivery of higher education services to the students, faculty and administrators of the Kansas City, Mo., school district. Members of the boards also discussed teacher education program accountability, recruitment and retention incentives for high-quality teachers, and accountability and professional development for PreK-12 teachers.

Recognizing the interdependence of quality education and the success of Missouri's economy, Gov. Bob Holden established the Business Education Roundtable in March to recommend solutions for critical issues facing the state's public schools, including a statewide teacher shortage. Higher education representatives are working with K-12 leaders and business leaders to address these issues.

The governor's first priority for the roundtable is

focusing on how to attract quality teachers to hard-to-staff schools.

The roundtable is divided into three subcommittees working to address the issues of local, state and federal funding; teachers as professionals; and improved school environments and increased community support.

Roundtable members also will discuss needs for public school teachers, the effectiveness of current policies and

programs in the recruitment and retention of qualified

teachers, the unique needs of hard-to-staff schools and the quality of teacher preparation at Missouri's colleges and universities.

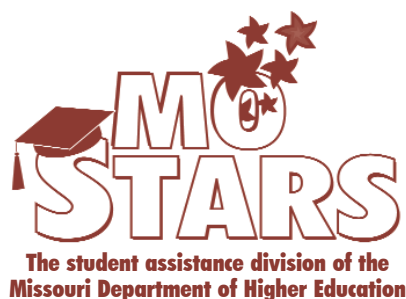
Higher education representatives on the roundtable include Marie Carmichael, Coordinating Board member; Dr. Robert Stein, associate commissioner for academic affairs and planning for the Department of Higher Education; Dr. Dean Hubbard, president of Northwest Missouri State University; and Dr. Keith Lovin, president of Maryville University of Saint Louis.

The roundtable held its second meeting on Sept. 27 in Kansas City. Subcommittees were asked to begin developing recommendations for priority issues to share with the full group. Committees will present their final recommendations to Gov. Holden in June. 🍷

**Report on Mathematics**  
[www.cbhe.state.mo.us/Acadafsr/k16fd.htm](http://www.cbhe.state.mo.us/Acadafsr/k16fd.htm)

**Achievement Gap Elimination**  
[www.cbhe.state.mo.us/Publications/taskforce.htm](http://www.cbhe.state.mo.us/Publications/taskforce.htm)

# MOSTARS selects American Student Assistance as student loan service provider



**M**OSTARS, the student assistance division of the Missouri Department of Higher Education, has signed a new student loan servicing contract with American Student

Assistance that will result in greater functionality, superior service and cost savings. The contract began October 11 and runs through June 30, 2011, with conversion to the ASA System to be completed by July 2004.

MOSTARS administers state and federal student financial assistance programs, including grants, scholarships and loans. MOSTARS guaranteed \$652 million in student loans in FFY 2002 and manages a student loan portfolio in excess of \$2.4 billion.

Designed for the specific needs of guarantors and their clients, the ASA System is a flexible solution to student loan administration that provides improved functionality and customer service at a reasonable cost – saving MOSTARS \$16 million in administration costs throughout the life of the contract.

Launched in 1998, the ASA System offers unique advantages over other student loan processing systems. Built on the Microsoft Windows® operating system, it is the only student loan system available today that was designed to deliver full functionality via the Internet. The easy-to-use Web interface will allow MOSTARS' clients to access data and make updates directly to the system database, ensuring up-to-date information and real-time processing. The system is exceptionally customer focused and offers MOSTARS the flexibility to respond to the changing demands of the student loan industry.

In addition to a state-of-the-art student loan processing system, ASA offers a large team of experienced information technology professionals to support the system. They utilize proven program management and software development methodologies that have given them a solid track record of on-time system implementation.

Established in Boston in 1956, ASA was the first student loan guarantor in the U.S.; its student loan

guarantee business is concentrated in the Northeast. With more than 45 years in the student financial aid industry, ASA offers experience in processing FFELP loans and providing technical solutions to meet the business needs of the student financial aid industry.

In 2001, ASA was awarded a contract to provide the Oregon Student Aid Commission with a customized, Web-based loan processing system based on the ASA System. ASA also provides student loan processing services for a number of colleges, universities and lenders across the country.

MOSTARS and ASA will demonstrate the new loan servicing system for Missouri's financial aid community at various sites throughout the state in the coming weeks. MOSTARS also plans to establish an advisory committee of Missouri financial aid professionals to assist with the development of training and implementation plans. 🍏

**For more information  
about MOSTARS or planning  
and paying for college, visit**

**[www.mostars.com](http://www.mostars.com)**

**or call**

**(800) 473-6757.**

**For more information about  
ASA, visit**

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# Matchefts to lead MOSTARS

**J**im Matchefts has been named associate commissioner for MOSTARS, the student assistance division of the Missouri Department of Higher Education.

On Oct. 4, Quentin Wilson, acting commissioner of higher education, announced the appointment of Matchefts as acting assistant commissioner for MOSTARS. Wilson made the permanent appointment and title change on Oct. 11.

As associate commissioner for MOSTARS, Matchefts oversees all facets of MOSTARS' operations, including administration of the Missouri Student Loan Program, state student financial assistance programs, default prevention and debt management initiatives, and early awareness and outreach activities such as GEAR UP. MOSTARS works with schools, lenders and secondary student loan markets to provide over \$500 million in state and federal student financial assistance to more than 136,000 students each year.

Matchefts joined the Missouri Department of Higher Education in 1997 as general counsel and director of legal affairs for MOSTARS. In his role as general counsel, he advised the Coordinating Board for Higher Education and the commissioner of higher education on various legal issues, such as compliance with the Missouri Sunshine Law, negotiating and drafting contracts, financial transactions, administrative rulemaking and legislative initiatives. He also oversaw representation of the Coordinating Board by the Missouri Attorney General's Office in litigation and other matters.

As director of legal affairs for MOSTARS, Matchefts provided legal advice on issues related to the guaranty agency's operation, including student loan collections, bankruptcy litigation, contracts, and compliance with statutes and regulations governing the administration of state and federal student financial assistance programs. He also drafted legislation establishing the Missouri Saving for Tuition Program. Matchefts has managed the compliance, default prevention and administrative wage garnishment areas of MOSTARS since June 2001.

Before joining the department, Matchefts was an associate city counselor for the St. Louis City Counselor's Office, providing legal advice and representation to various city departments. He also has served as an associate attorney in the litigation department of Lewis, Rice & Fingersh, a corporate law firm, and worked as a judicial law clerk for the U.S. District Court in Missouri's Eastern District and for the Missouri Court of Appeals.

Matchefts holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Lawrence University in Appleton, Wis. He graduated from Washington University School of Law with a juris doctorate in 1985 and received a doctorate in education from Saint Louis University in May 2002. 🍎



**Matchefts**

## CBHE MEETING, from page 2

importance of and potential return on state investment in higher education.

The Coordinating Board also revisited several of its policies during the October meeting, voting to change its institutional nomenclature policy. The Coordinating Board's policy is meant to guide nomenclature decisions made by institutional governing boards and the state legislature. The new policy recommends that a name accurately reflect the institution's mission and scope of academic degree programs. It also states that name changes should not be motivated primarily by marketing or justify or require additional state resources.

Board members delayed action on appointing a task force to evaluate the effectiveness of its policy on associate

degree delivery, giving the public two-year and four-year institutions the opportunity to work together over the next six months to recommend changes that would contribute to a more balanced, cost-effective, affordable and high-quality associate degree delivery system.

In addition, the Coordinating Board approved a moratorium on new academic program proposals until its current program approval policy is clarified to encourage more effective and efficient use of existing resources and ensure quality educational delivery. The public and independent institutions are collaborating to recommend clarifications. A progress report is expected by February. 🍎

# DHE *Calendar*

## CBHE Meeting

December 4, 2002  
Truman State Office Building,  
Jefferson City

## Excellence in Teaching Awards Luncheon

December 4, 2002  
Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City

## CBHE and Presidential Advisory Committee Meetings

February 6, 2003  
Jefferson City

## CBHE and Presidential Advisory Committee Meetings

April 10, 2003  
Truman State University,  
Kirksville

## CBHE and Presidential Advisory Committee Meetings

June 5, 2003  
William Jewell College,  
Liberty

## CBHE and Presidential Advisory Committee Meetings

October 9, 2003  
Moberly Area Community College,  
Moberly

## Governor's Conference on Higher Education and CBHE Meeting

December 11, 2003  
Location to be determined



the student assistance division of the  
Missouri Department of Higher Education

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# DHE *News*

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**FIRST CLASS**

**CBHE News** is published by the Missouri Department of Higher Education to inform Missouri's higher education community of Coordinating Board for Higher Education actions and higher education events. Copies are distributed to CBHE members, institutional governing boards and presidents, higher education associations, the Missouri General Assembly, Gov. Bob Holden and other interested Missouri citizens.

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